

# FROM THE GROUND UP: WEST TEXAS DRIVING AMERICAN STRENGTH JULY 29, 2025 | TENTATIVE PANEL AGENDA

#### **CHECK-IN & BREAKFAST**

7:30 - 8:00 a.m.

**WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS** | 8:00 – 8:10 a.m.

#### MORNING KEYNOTE SPEAKER

8:10 - 9:00 a.m.

## POWERING PROGRESS: WEST TEXAS ENERGY DRIVING A GLOBAL FUTURE | 9:00 - 9:50 a.m.

- Moderator: Congressman August Pfluger, TX11
- Commissioner Wayne Christian, RRC
- Senator Kevin Sparks, SD31
- Ben Shepperd, President, Permian Basin Petroleum Association

Networking Break 9:50 – 10:00 a.m.

## DEEP ROOTS AND STEADFAST RESOLVE: AGRICULTURE GROWING AMERICA'S FUTURE | 10:00 - 10:50 a.m.

- Moderator: Senator Charles Perry, SD28
- Representative David Spiller, HD68
- Warren Cude, State Director, Texas Farm Bureau
- Dr. Bart Fischer, Co-Director, Agricultural and Food Policy Center





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Networking Break 10:50 - 11:00 a.m.

### **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** | 11:00 - 11:50 a.m.

### Chalkboards to Chatbots: The AI Revolution in Learning

- Facilitator: Scarlet Clouse, Dean of the College of Education, Angelo State University
- Dr. Christopher Moran, Ed.D., Superintendent, San Angelo ISD

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#### Main Street Momentum: Digital Grit and the Power of Al

- Facilitator: Glen Hamer, President & CEO, Texas Association of Business
- Preston Wimberly, Owner, San Angelo To Go
- Simeon McCullough, Owner, Simple Host

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### Securing the Homeland: How AI is Reshaping National Defense

- Facilitator: Drew Scherberle, Executive Director, National Security Innovation Council

Lunch Service 11:50 a.m. – 12:05 p.m.





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#### LUNCH & AFTERNOON KEYNOTE SPEAKER

12:05 – 1:10 p.m.

Networking Break 1:10 – 1:30 p.m.

### AT THE HEART OF IT ALL: STRENGTHENING RURAL HEALTH TO SUSTAIN COMMUNITIES | 1:30 - 2:20 p.m.

- Moderator: Representative Drew Darby, HD72
- Cole Johnson, Associate Vice Chancellor for Governmental Relations, Texas Tech University
- Curtis Donaldson, Director, Community Engagement West Texas

# FROM DIRT ROADS TO DATA STREAMS: OUR REGION AT THE CROSSROADS OF SPACE & CONNECTIVITY | 2:20-3:10~p.m.

- Moderator: Congressman August Pfluger, TX11
- Representative Brooks Landgraf, HD81
- Norman Garza Jr., Executive Director, Texas Space Commission

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**CLOSING REMARKS** | 3:10 – 3:15 p.m.

**MEET AND GREET WITH THE CO-HOSTS** | 3:15 – 3:45 p.m.

